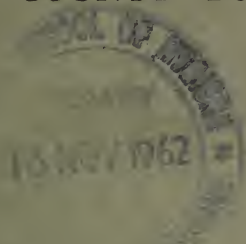


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Decd: 24/10/62.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRKENHEAD



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
1961

J. W. Lobban. M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

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ANNUAL REPORT

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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1961

J. W. Lobban. M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRKENHEAD

HEALTH COMMITTEE

(as at 31.12.61)

His Worship The Mayor

(ALDERMAN MRS. D. MELVILLE, J.P.,)

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR W. GARDNER

Deputy Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MRS. A.L. CROMBLEHOLME

Aldermen:

MRS. E.F. GARDNER

H.D. SHAKESHAFT

J.W. OATES

(Ex-Officio, Chairman of Finance Committee)

H. PLATT, J.P.

(Ex-Officio, Chairman of General Purposes Committee)

Councillors:

J. A. BIRD

M. B. HARROP

A. CLIFFE

MISS B. JACKSON

A. N. DEAN

MRS. A. A. OGDEN

D. T. G. EVANS

R. PILKINGTON

Non-Council Members:

MRS. A. CAPPER

MRS. M. TRAVIS

B. KEWLEY

MRS. E. VENABLES

J. NICKSON

MR. N. D. YATES

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STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

J. W. LOBBAN, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

A. H. WILDE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS:

Lillie L. Munro, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., (RESIGNED 31.8.61)

Anne D. Kellner, M.B., CH.B., D.OBST.R.C.O.G., D.P.H., D.C.H.

John A. Black, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (RESIGNED 31.3.61)

Bernard M. Nolan, L.R.C.P. & S.I., D.P.H., (APPOINTED 3.7.61)

Mary P.K. Williams, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., (APPOINTED 1.11.61)

VETERINARY OFFICER:

N.M. Clayton, M.R.C.V.S.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND INSPECTOR UNDER FOOD AND DRUGS ACT:

M. Holgate, M.R.S.H.

SUPERINTENDENT HEALTH VISITOR:

Miss C.M. Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C.

NON-MEDICAL SUPERVISOR OF MIDWIVES AND SUPERINTENDENT, HOME NURSING SERVICE (FROM 1.4.61)

Miss M. Pringle, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D., H.V.C.

SUPERINTENDENT: HOME NURSING SERVICE:

Miss R. Cornter, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D. (RESIGNED 31.3.61)

LAY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

J.H.H. Shell, D.P.A.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Several staff changes are worthy of mention in this introductory letter. Dr. L.L. Munro, Assistant Medical Officer of Health resigned on her appointment to the County Medical Staff in Flintshire, having served this Authority since her appointment in 1953. She was succeeded by Dr. Mary Williams.

Dr. J. Black resigned as at 31st March, 1961 on his appointment as Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Paisley. He was succeeded by Dr. B.M. Nolan.

Mr. A. Carnie, Senior Meat Inspector retired in November bringing to a close his own service of 49 years and a family connection with the Meat Inspection Department of 60 years, his father having been Chief Meat Inspector from 1900. Mr. Carnie was succeeded by Mr. T.K. Ward of the Meat Inspection Staff.

Opportunity was taken on the retiral of Miss Cornter, Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service, to combine the appointments of Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service and the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives. Miss Pringle, the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives, was appointed to the dual position.

I am glad of this opportunity of thanking my brother officials and their staffs for all the help given so freely to this Department.

I am grateful to all members of the staff of the Health Department for their loyal and efficient service during the year.

To the Chairman and members of the Health Committee I am particularly indebted. Their interest in all branches of the work of the Health Department and their continued encouragement in the quest for positive health for all members of the community have been a source of inspiration during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. LOBBAN.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough	8,598 acres or 13.4 square miles
Estimated Population (mid-1961)	141,750
Density of population per acre	16.5
Number of houses in Borough	40,629
Estimated product of a penny rate 1961/1962	£7,150
General Rate 1961/1962	19/9d in the £

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS.

There were 2831 live births representing a birth rate of 19.4 per 1,000 population.

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS.

There were 159 illegitimate live births representing 56.1 per 1,000 total live births.

STILL BIRTHS.

There were 69 stillbirths representing 22.9 per 1,000 total live and still births.

Total live and still births numbered 2,900

INFANT DEATHS.

There were 93 deaths in infants under 1 year.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births - 32.8

Legitimate	legitimate live births	31.4
------------	------------------------	------

Illegitimate	illegitimate	56.6
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NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE

There were 64 deaths in infants under four weeks representing 22.2 per 1,000 total live births.

EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE.

There were 56 deaths in infants under 1 week representing 19.7 per 1,000 total live births.

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE.

The number of still births and deaths under 1 week totalled 125 representing 43.1 per 1,000 total live and still births.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There was one maternal death, representing a rate of 0.37 per 1,000 live and still births.

DEATHS.

1759 deaths occurred during the year (901 males and 858 females). This represents a death rate of 14.0 per 1,000 population. The comparable figure for England and Wales is 12.0. The Annual death rates for the Borough recently are as follows :-

Rate per 1,000 Population				
1952	...	...	...	12.6
1953	...	...	...	11.8
1954	...	...	...	12.7
1955	...	...	...	13.3
1956	...	...	...	12.8
1957	...	...	...	12.7
1958	...	...	...	13.3
1959	...	...	...	12.9
1960	...	...	...	12.9
1961	...	...	...	14.0

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were 93 deaths of infants under one year of age representing an infant mortality rate of 32.8 per 1000 live births. The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 21.4, the lowest on record.

The causes of death were as follows :-

Congenital Malformations	23
Pneumonia	16
Other infective and parasitic conditions	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3
Accidents, (other than motor vehicle)	8
Other defined and ill defined diseases	41
	<hr/> 93 <hr/>

This figure of 32.8 per 1,000 live births compares unfavourably with the infant mortality rate in 1960 - 24.3.

When these infant deaths are considered it is found that 10 died within an hour of birth and 9 within 6 hours of birth.

56 of the deaths occurred within a week of birth and the total deaths within 4 weeks of birth numbered 64.

Accidents accounted for eight deaths, exactly double the number in 1960.

Congenital malformations accounted for 23 deaths and it is obvious that much has still to be done in preventing these deaths in infants.

The following table gives comparative figures for the infant mortality rates of Birkenhead and England and Wales in recent years.

	Birkenhead	England & Wales
1951	40.5	30
1952	34.7	27.6
1953	28.4	26.8
1954	28.5	28.5
1955	27.9	24.9
1956	33.4	23.8
1957	31.6	23
1958	29.3	22
1959	21.1	22
1960	24.3	21.7
1961	32.8	21.4

MATERNAL DEATH.

There was one maternal death during the year representing a mortality rate of 0.37 per 1,000 total births compared with the National figure of 0.33 per 1,000 total births.

DEATHS DUE TO TUBERCULOSIS.

	(1960)	Rates per 1,000 Population	England & Wales
Respiratory	13 (16)	0.09	0.065
Non-Respiratory	2 (0)	0.01	0.007

DEATHS FROM CANCER OF THE LUNG,

The number of deaths was 67 compared with 83 in 1960. The rate per 1,000 population is 0.47 compared with the National figure of 0.49. As in previous years the number of males dying from this disease outnumbered the females. Recent annual figures are as follows :-

	Male	Female	Total
1954	57	5	62
1955	65	17	82
1956	48	8	56
1957	53	7	60
1958	79	11	90
1959	58	17	75
1960	64	19	83
1961	59	8	67

DEATHS FROM CANCER OF OTHER SITES.

These deaths numbered 212 giving a rate of 1.50 per 1,000 population compared with the National figure of 1.67 per 1,000 population.

HEART DISEASE.

Deaths due to heart disease numbered 578, representing thirty-two per cent of total deaths.

PNEUMONIA AND BRONCHITIS.

These diseases accounted for 250 deaths (fourteen per cent of total deaths). Deaths due to pneumonia numbered 150 and 100 were due to bronchitis. Comparable figures for 1960 were 131 deaths due to pneumonia and 110 to bronchitis :- total 241.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Influenza	21
Other Infective & parasitic diseases	4
Syphilitic disease	4
Measles	1

There were no deaths due to diphtheria, whooping cough, meningococcal infections and acute poliomyelitis.

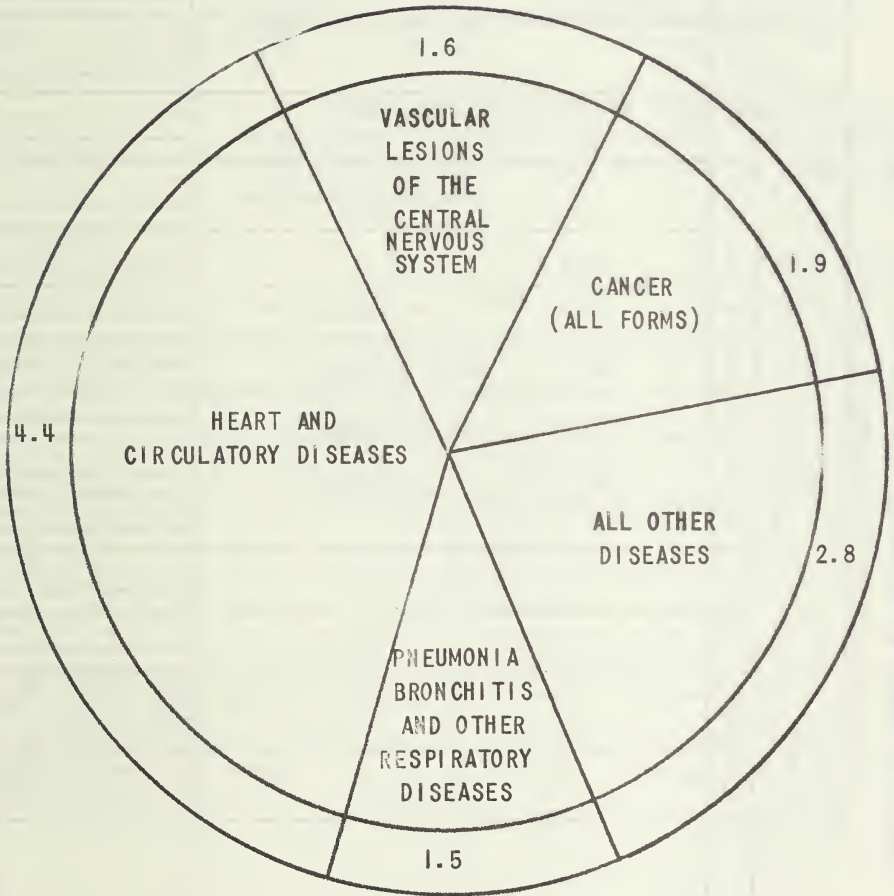
ACCIDENTS.

Motor vehicle accidents accounted for 20 deaths, an increase of four compared with the sixteen deaths in 1960. Other accidents caused 33 deaths, a decrease of 18 from the previous year's total of 51. 8 of these deaths were to infants under one year of age. It is a matter for concern that deaths from all accidents in the borough numbered 53, of which many might have been prevented. Fewer fatal accidents have occurred in the elderly.

SUMMARY OF COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

	Birkenhead	England & Wales
Birth rate (per 1,000 population)	19.4	17.4
Still Birth rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)	22.9	18.7
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	14.0	12.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	32.8	21.4
Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	22.2	15.5
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis (per 1,000 population)	0.09	0.065
Deaths from Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis (per 1,000 population)	0.01	0.007
Deaths from Cancer of Lung (per 1,000 population)	0.47	0.49
Deaths from Cancer of Other Sites (per 1,000 population)	1.50	1.67

MAIN DEATH RATES PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION
1961.



CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE - 1961.

(As compiled by the Registrar-General)

Causes of Death	All Ages		0-		14		5-		15-		25-		45-		65-		75-	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
All Causes	901	858	56	37	4	5	5	3	9	2	34	24	253	149	250	192	290	443
1. Tuberculosis - Respiratory	9	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	4	1	2	1
2. Tuberculosis - Other	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	1	-
3. Syphilitic disease	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	23	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	11	5	6	7	5	2
11. Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, bronchus	59	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	29	5	19	1	7	1
12. Malignant Neoplasm - breast	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	11	-	4	-	7
13. Malignant Neoplasm - uterus	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	4	-	2
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasm	59	74	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	3	24	26	13	29	18	15
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	3	1	1
16. Diabetes	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	6
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	95	140	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	18	9	32	26	43	104
18. Coronary disease, angina	207	151	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	76	27	71	42	55	80
19. Hypertension, with heart disease	14	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	2	4	6	5	13
20. Other heart disease	59	125	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	5	15	15	16	37	88
21. Other circulatory disease	23	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	9	5	12	19
22. Influenza	13	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	2	7	3
23. Pneumonia	87	63	9	7	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	19	3	16	11	41	38
24. Bronchitis	79	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	22	4	30	9	26	8
25. Other disease of respiratory system	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	1	4	-	4	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	4	-

Measles and Whooping Cough formed the bulk of notifications. There were seven cases of poliomyelitis, fortunately all recovered. In one case the child had commenced a course of immunisation against poliomyelitis but before completion had an attack of poliomyelitis.

	1961	(1960)
Measles	1731	(1021)
Whooping Cough	215	(195)
Scarlet Fever	44	(54)
Dysentery	48	(135)

	Meningo-coccal Infection		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles		Whooping Cough		Dysentery	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Paralytic	Non-Paralytic	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified	8	6	24	20	-	-	5	3	-	-	882	854	104	109	52	46
Final numbers after correction	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	36	37	16	11	4	3
Age under 1 year																
Age 1	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	102	79	27	17	2	5
Age 2	-	1	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	140	134	9	20	1	4
Age 3	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	115	135	13	15	3	1
Age 4	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	127	127	11	8	2	2
Age 5 - 9 years	2	-	11	10	-	-	2	1	-	-	347	324	25	30	2	3
Age 10 - 14 years	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	9	2	3	1	-
Age 15 - 24 years	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	1	1
Age 25 years and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	6	6
Totals	5	2	24	20	-	-	4	3	-	-	881	850	103	109	22	25

	Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Malaria		Paratyphoid Fever		Erysipelas		Small Pox		Puerperal Pyrexia		Acute Encephalitis Infective				Food Poisoning		Ophthalmia Neonatorum	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Number originally notified	83	69	-	1	-	-	-	1	8	4	-	-	23	-	-	2	-	1	40	49	-	-
Final numbers after correction																						
Under 5 years	6	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	-	-
Age 5 - 14 years	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-
Age 15 - 44 years	19	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-
Age 45 - 64 years	28	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age 65 and over	22	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age Unknown	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	82	69	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	4	-	-	23	-	-	1	-	1	4	8	-	-

SUSPECTED FOOD POISONING CASES AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE CASES ASSOCIATED WITH FOOD AND/OR DRINK.

187 cases of suspected food poisoning or dysentery were notified during the year. Investigations involved 335 visits to patient's houses by Public Health Inspectors and the submission of 315 specimens for bacteriological examination.

The causal agent was confirmed in the following cases :-

Shigella sonnei	47 cases
Salmonella typhimurium	6 "
Salmonella Newport	2 "
Salmonella Heidelberg	3 "

One person continues to be a carrier of Salmonella typhi.

The cases of dysentery and the 11 cases of Salmonella food poisoning were all in isolated family outbreaks.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Notifications.

There were 90 cases of tuberculosis notified during 1961, a similar figure to that of 1960.

Contact Tracing and Subsequent Examination.

This has continued to result in a large number of family contacts being examined. This is one of the most effective methods of reducing the incidence of tuberculosis. It is satisfactory to find that the combined efforts of Chest Physician, Clinic Staff, Almoner and Health Visitors have achieved such a satisfactory result.

Mortality.

There were 13 deaths due to pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 deaths due to non-respiratory tuberculosis. The total of 15 is one fewer than the figures for 1960.

Tuberculosis Register.

Although primary notifications were the same as in the previous year, the final numbers on the register show a reduction due to cases being removed from the register for various reasons.

		Adults	Children (Under 15 years)	Total
Respiratory	- Male:	724	63	787
	- Female:	575	55	630
Non-Respiratory	- Male	22	44	66
	- Female:	56	37	93
	Male :	746	107	855
Total	-			
	Female:	631	92	723
		1377	199	1576
GRAND TOTAL:		(1960-1431)	(1960-204)	(1960-1635)

FORMAL NOTIFICATIONS DURING YEAR
NUMBER OF PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

AGE PERIOD	0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	Total
Respiratory - Males ...	-	-	1	1	2	1	6	4	10	9	6	8	1	49
Respiratory - Females ..	-	1	1	-	1	2	2	6	7	1	4	1	-	26
Non-Respiratory - Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	4
Non-Respiratory - Females ..	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	7
TOTAL:-	-	1	2	1	5	4	9	12	18	13	11	9	1	86

NEW CASES OTHER THAN BY FORMAL NOTIFICATION

Death returns from Local Registrars														
Respiratory - Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3
Respiratory - Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Non-Respiratory - Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Respiratory - Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Death returns from Registrar -														
General (Transferable deaths)														
Respiratory - Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Respiratory - Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Respiratory - Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Respiratory - Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Posthumous Notifications														
Respiratory - Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Respiratory - Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Respiratory - Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Respiratory - Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS :-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	4

Department	Not Passed		Deferred for further examination		Passed for:						Examination for:				Special Examinations	Totals
	Service	Superannuation	Service	Deferred for further examination	Service	Service & Superannuation	Service, Superannuation & Driving P.S.V.'s	Superannuation	Teaching Appointments	Entry to Teacher's Training Colleges	Recommended for Premature Retirement	Examination for:				
												Driving P.S.V.'s	Work in Mersey Tunnel	Disblement		
Architect	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Baths	10	-	6	-	3	-	-	22	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	18
Cleansing	53	-	8	-	2	-	-	100	-	-	1	-	35	-	-	130
Education	24	-	2	-	8	-	6	24	76	32	1	-	-	-	9	274
Engineers & Surveyor's	7	-	1	-	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	42
Fire and Ambulance	11	-	1	-	23	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	40
Health	2	-	1	-	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10
Housing	1	-	1	-	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Libraries	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Magistrates' Clerk	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Markets & Abattoir	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Parks & Cemeteries	-	-	-	-	5	-	6	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
Police	20	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Probation	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Town Clerk's	-	-	2	-	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Transport & Ferries	29	-	17	-	114	-	186	12	-	-	6	27	-	2	15	408
Treasury	-	1	-	-	21	-	-	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	23
Water	18	-	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	36
Weights & Measures	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Works & Buildings	82	1	1	-	4	-	-	19	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	108
TOTAL :-	359	6	41	-	259	188	104	76	32	16	27	35	2	41	-	1186

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Details of the medical examinations carried out by the Medical Staff for Corporation Departments will be found in the preceding table.

CREMATIONS.

The Medical Officer of Health is Medical Referee to the Landican Crematorium and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health and an Assistant Medical Officer of Health act as his deputies.

During the year 2315 cremations took place compared with 1973 in 1960. It is increasingly obvious that this hygienic method of disposal of the dead is gaining in favour compared with actual burial.

PROBLEM FAMILIES.

The register of problem families maintained in the Health Department has been kept under review. Liaison between Departments and Officials concerned with problem families has been continued. Particular cases have been the subject of discussion at Case Conferences.

CHIROPODY.

As was mentioned in last year's report the Corporation commenced making a grant to the Birkenhead District Nursing Society as from 1st April, 1961 for the provision of Chiropody treatment to selected cases.

The following are eligible for treatment :-

1. Persons of both sexes over 65 years of age
2. Handicapped persons of all ages
3. Expectant Mothers

Treatment is provided following medical recommendation at the patient's own home or at the premises of the Chiropodist. The charge to the patient is 2/3d. per treatment.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

The teaching of Mothercraft by Health Visitors at the Ante-natal Relaxation Clinics has continued. Similar Mothercraft Classes have taken place at St. Catherine's Hospital in association with the Hospital Ante-natal Clinics.

Group teaching on appropriate subjects has continued in the Infant Welfare Centres.

A meeting of the working party on Cancer Education on Merseyside was held early in 1961 but no appointment of an Organiser had been made by the end of the year.

CHILD GUIDANCE.

The Local Authority has not established a Child Guidance Clinic, but cases are sent to the Child Psychiatric Unit established at the Children's Hospital. There is close co-operation between the Child Psychiatrist and the Medical Staff of the Health Department.

INCIDENCE OF BLINDNESS.

The total number of Registered Blind Persons on 31st December, 1961 was 355 (132 males and 223 females). On the corresponding date in 1960 there were 355 names on the register (130 males and 225 females). New cases during the year numbered 34 (9 males and 25 females). 10 inward transfers (4 male and 6 female) occurred.

Deaths, decertifications, transfers to other areas accounted for the deletion of 44 names (11 males and 33 females).

Partially sighted cases numbered 88 (33 males and 55 females) as at 31.12.61. Corresponding figures for 1960 were 95 (35 males and 60 females). Additions to this register numbered 17 (3 males and 14 females) during 1961.

Deaths, decertifications, removals from the Borough and transfers to the Blind Register reduced the number on the register by 28 (6 males and 22 females) but inward transfers numbered 4 (1 male and 3 females).

Of the 355 Registered Blind Persons 176 (44 males and 132 females) are over the age of 70, and of the partially sighted 33 (6 males and 27 females) are over 70.

There are 11 blind (5 male and 6 female) and 6 partially sighted (3 males and 3 females) children under the age of sixteen.

Blind and partially sighted persons in employment number 42 (31 males and 11 females) and 14 (10 males and 4 females) respectively.

During 1961, 73 examinations were carried out by ophthalmic surgeons - 41 first examinations and 32 re-examinations.

The cause of blindness in the 30 new registrations was as follows :-

Cataract	...	...	...	...	...	11
Glaucoma	...	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital, Myopic and Other Defects	...	...	...	...	...	16

The Partially Sighted Persons notified in the same period were:-

Cataract	...	...	...	...	...	7
Glaucoma	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other Defects	...	...	...	...	...	6

A. - Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons.

- (i) Number of Cases Registered during the Year in respect of which Para.7(c) of Form B.D. 8 Recommends :-
- (a) No Treatment
- (b) Treatment (Medical, Surgical or Optical)
- (ii) Number of Cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment

	Cause of Disability		
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Others
(a) No Treatment	8	1	11
(b) Treatment (Medical, Surgical or Optical)	6	6	5
(ii) Number of Cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	3	2	4

B. - Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum Cases	Nil
Retrolental Fibroplasia Cases	1

SPASTICS AND EPILEPTICS.

Spastics:

The following particulars relate to Birkenhead children known to be suffering from spastic conditions as at 31st December, 1961:-

Attending ordinary schools ...	...	11 pupils
" Hospital Special School ...	...	1 pupil
At School for Spastics, Birkenhead ..	...	7 pupils
At Residential Special School ...	...	1 pupil
		<hr/> 20 pupils

The names of further adults are included in the Handicapped Persons Register as suffering from spastic conditions. Eleven of these were living in their own homes and three more in special Homes or Hospital.

Epileptics:

There are 63 epileptics on the Handicapped Persons Register - 51 live in their own homes and 12 are in Epileptic Colonies.

The problem of epilepsy in school children is not an acute one - only three children are registered on the Handicapped Pupils Register.

In medical inspections carried out during the year 21 pupils were noted to be kept under observation.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

At the end of the year, Infant Welfare Centres were open as follows :-

Central Clinic	Monday and Wednesday	2 - 4 p.m.
South Clinic	Tuesday and Wednesday	2 - 4 p.m.
North Clinic	Wednesday and Thursday	2 - 4 p.m.
Balls Road Clinic	Thursday and Friday	2 - 4 p.m.
Upton Clinic	Tuesday and Friday	2 - 4 p.m.
Woodchurch Clinic	Monday	2 - 4 p.m.
Prenton Clinic	Thursday	2 - 4 p.m.
Thingwall Clinic	Alternate Fridays	2 - 4 p.m.

The sessions at Upton Clinic were increased to two each week as from 2nd May, 1961.

There has again been an increase in clinic attendances.

Attendances at Infant Welfare Centres.

Below are set out details.

CLINIC	Attendance of under 1's	1-2	2-5	Total Attendances	No. of sessions	Total Visits	Total re- visits	1st visits to Doctor	Re-visits to Doctor
North	3795	376	171	4342	104	330	4012	307	1904
South	4855	438	85	5378	102	439	4939	407	1923
Central	2285	255	172	2712	100	304	2408	274	1072
Balls Road	3684	480	120	4284	101	340	3944	306	1737
Upton	2453	220	118	2791	85	213	2578	177	991
Prenton	1622	158	74	1854	52	117	1737	103	679
Woodchurch	945	168	73	1186	48	99	1087	90	529
*Thingwall	461	91	30	582	26	30	552	28	184
Total	20100	2186	843	23129	618	1872	21257	1692	9019
Totals (1960)	(19114)	(2010)	(676)	(21900)	(588)	(1678)	(20122)	(1571)	(8464)

* Held fortnightly.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

By arrangement with the Education Committee, expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age can receive dental treatment by the School Dental Staff at the School Dental Clinic.

The following table gives details of the dental care provided :-

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	5	5	5	5
Children under five	87	68	67	62

Forms of Dental Treatment provided :-

	Scal- ing and gum Treat- ment	Fill- ings	Silver Nitrate Treat- ment	Crowns or Inlays	Extract- ions	General Anaes- thetics	Dentures Provided		Radio graph
							Full U or L	Part U or L	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	-	-	-	-	40	4	3	1	-
Children under five	-	28	-	-	120	65	-	-	-

DAY NURSERIES.

The following table shows the attendances during the year.

Name of Nursery	Capacity	No. on register at End of the year		Average daily attendances during the year.	
		0-2	2-5	0-2	2-5
Cavendish Road	25 places	8	10	6	9
Old Chester Road	25 places	6	11	4	10

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION - PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 - SECTION 187.

At the end of the year there were three Nursing Homes registered in the Borough.

All Nursing Homes are inspected periodically by Medical Officers of the Health Department.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948.

At the end of the year 3 people were registered under this Act. A member of the medical staff visits their addresses regularly.

PHENYLKETONURIA.

During the year 2160 babies were tested. One positive reactor was referred to the Consultant Paediatrician.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

During the year 201 premature babies were born. 37 were still-born and 164 born alive. 169 were born in hospital, one in a nursing home and 28 at home. 9 of the babies born at home were transferred to the Premature Baby Unit for nursing. All premature infants are the subject of particular attention by Midwives and Health Visitors.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT.

16 children under 5 years of age were recommended for convalescent treatment during the year.

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ASSISTED BY LOCAL AUTHORITY.

(a) St. Elizabeth's Convent

No. of attendances during the year	
68 1st Visits	808 Re-Visits

(b) Birkenhead & District Mothers' Welfare Clinic

Of the 826 new patients given advice at the clinic during the year, 308 were residents of the Birkenhead Borough.

WELFARE FOODS.

There has again been a drop in the issues of welfare foods, mainly due to the charges now in force.

Since 1st June, 1961 the foods issued have to be sold at the prices which cover their cost to the Government, i.e. 1s. 6d. per 6 oz. bottle for Orange Juice, 1s. 0d. per bottle for Cod Liver Oil and 6d. per packet for Vitamin Tablets. Formerly Orange Juice was 5d. per bottle while Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin Tablets were free.

I do not consider that the drop in sales necessarily means that the children and expectant mothers are being deprived of the required vitamins but rather that other commodities such as

Rose Hip Syrup, Black Currant Juice, Adexolin and Halibut Oil which supply similar vitamins and are not now very much dearer than the Ministry products are being purchased.

The distribution centre at St. John's Parish room was closed on 31st July owing to decreased demand. This resulted in the termination of the assistance which members of the W.V.S. have given in the distribution of welfare foods since the inception of the scheme. I wish to express my appreciation of the help which they have given so willingly over the years.

There are now ten distribution centres in the town.

ISSUE OF WELFARE FOOD

	Dried Milk	Cod Liver Oil	Vitamin Tablets	Orange Juice
1956	91152	12658	6625	82305
1957	71722	9872	6282	83325 * * restricted to under 2 yrs.
1958	59290	5388	5493	46117
1959	54861	5196	5849	48089
1960	47927	4897	5121	46283
1961	42246	4147	5023	28380

M I D W I F E R Y S E R V I C E

NUMBER OF MIDWIVES.

During the year under review, 50 Midwives gave notice of their intention to practise in the Borough, as follows :-

Municipal Midwives	14
Private Midwives	4
Midwives in Hospitals & Institutions	30
Midwives in Private Nursing Homes	2
	<hr/>
	50

SUPERVISION.

As from 1st April, 1961, Miss M. Pringle, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.; M.T.D., has carried out the duties of both Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives and Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service (details of the latter will be found in the appropriate section of the Report). This has, of course, made a considerable difference in the number of supervisory visits paid in respect of the Midwifery Service, as so much time had to be devoted to the additional appointment. The Midwifery Service was duly transferred to the Home Nursing Service Headquarters at Balls Road as from 1st April, 1961, and the following work was carried out during the year :-

Inspection of Midwives:	Nursing Visits	-
	Visits to Midwives' homes	48
	Interviews at Office	402
Work with Pupil Midwives:	Interviews at Office	152
	Supervision of Nursings	186
	Supervision of Deliveries	20
	Lecture Sessions	98
Visits in connection with :-		
Cases requiring medical aid		-
Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia		2
Cases of stillbirth		1
Expectant mothers		-
Other Visits :-		
Attendances at Ante-natal Clinics		31
Attendances at Relaxation Clinics		22

As from 1st April, 1961, Mrs. M. E. Evans, S.R.N.; S.C.M., H.V. Cert.; was appointed Deputy Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives and has carried out the following work :-

Cases requiring medical aid	89
Expectant Mothers	104
Other Visits :-	
Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics	87
Attendances at Relaxation Clinics	68

NUMBER OF CASES ATTENDED BY MIDWIVES - 873

The number of domiciliary confinements attended by Midwives alone (no doctor in attendance) numbered 741.

CASES REQUIRING MEDICAL AID.

213 cases were notified by Domiciliary Midwives in which medical aid had been called, as against 166 in the previous year.

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM MIDWIVES.

Stillbirths	9
Deaths	1
Liability to be Source of Infection	1
Having laid out a dead body	3

MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES.

The following is a summary of the work of the Municipal Midwives during the year :-

No. of Bookings		1092
No. of Births attended -		
(a) as Maternity Nurse	124)	
(b) as Midwife	724)	848
No. of Visits to Patients		22375

GAS AND AIR ANALGESIA.

Gas and air analgesia was administered by the Municipal Midwives to 622 patients.

PETHIDINE.

Municipal Midwives administered pethidine to 603 patients during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No case was notified during the year.

DISTRICT MIDWIFERY TRAINING.

The arrangements made for Pupil Midwives to take Part II Midwifery Training at the Maternity Hospital and to complete their training under the teaching and supervision of the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives, have continued in a most satisfactory manner. 13 Pupil Midwives completed their training during the year and all were successful in obtaining Part II Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

ESTABLISHMENT.

Once again we have to report that a Pupil Midwife who completed her Part II Training in Birkenhead was successful in her application for appointment as a District Midwife. It was subsequently found that the two Midwives who were employed on extended service could be released. The establishment has been maintained during the year.

It has still been necessary to employ two part-time Midwives to cope with the ever increasing number of early discharges from the Hospitals.

MIDWIVES RELIEF DUTY.

We have not as yet instituted the night rota system, although thought has been given to this problem. The Midwives are still on duty continuously day and night, except for off duty periods of 36 consecutive hours every two weeks and 96 continuous hours every four weeks.

ANTE-NATAL RELAXATION EXERCISES.

Although there has been a slight fluctuation in the number of mothers attending, those who have availed themselves of the classes have derived much benefit.

The relaxation instruction and exercises are given and supervised by trained Physiotherapists. The demonstrations and mothercraft lectures are given by Midwives, Pupil Midwives (under the guidance of Midwives as part of their training) and Health Visitors.

Attendances.

Clinic	Sessions	Patients	Attendances
North	52	134	786
South	51	58	580
Total:	103	192	1366

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

Arrangements are in operation for the care and welfare of unmarried mothers and their children. Close co-operation is maintained with Moral Welfare Associations and Churches of all denominations.

The Local Health Authority makes an annual grant of £50 to the funds of the Birkenhead and Wirral Moral Welfare Association.

Unmarried expectant mothers are encouraged to attend Ante-natal Clinics and to enter Mother and Baby Homes where it is deemed

desirable, usually six weeks before the confinement and six weeks after the birth of the baby. The length of stay averages twelve weeks but this may be varied according to needs.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

During the year under review, the attendance of Assistant Medical Officers and Health Visitors was discontinued and the Ante-natal Clinics have been staffed solely by Midwives. Once weekly Clinics were held at the Central, North and South Clinics on 155 occasions; the number of patients dealt with being 1046 and the total number of attendances made being 4068.

Attendances at Clinics.

Clinic	No. of Sessions	No. of Cases	No. of Attendances
Central	52	379	1690
North	50	287	1122
South	53	380	1256

H E A L T H V I S I T I N G

STAFF

During the year appointments of Health Visitors to vacancies and the qualification of the two student Health Visitors brought the numbers of Health Visitors to full strength. Two student Health Visitors were appointed during the year to commence the appropriate course of study in August.

Two part-time State Registered Nurses have continued to be employed on duties not requiring the special training of a Health Visitor.

ASSOCIATION WITH HOSPITALS.

The link-up with the Geriatric Department of St. Catherine's Hospital has continued to work very well. The presence of a Health Visitor at Ward Rounds and Out-Patient sessions ensures that follow up which is beneficial to the patient and to the hospital.

Similarly the attendance of a Health Visitor at the Paediatric Department of St. Catherine's Hospital and at the Birkenhead Children's Hospital continued to be of great assistance. This together with the free interchange of information about child patients between Hospital and Health Department is most useful.

ASCERTAINMENT OF DEAFNESS IN CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS.

The ascertainment of deafness in selected groups of young children up to the age of five years has continued. During the year 169 children were examined.

PHENYLKETONURIA TESTING.

This was continued during the year and 2160 children were examined.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY - BIRKENHEAD STREET CAMPAIGN.

It is appropriate that some details of this should be given in this section of the report because of the hard work of the Health Visitors which ensured the success of this scheme.

It was decided by the Director of the Mass Radiography Unit - Dr. Bleasdale to bring the Unit to Birkenhead - to the doorsteps of the people in certain areas of the town.

This survey commenced on 29th May, 1961 and lasted until 25th October, 1961. The areas visited were Birkenhead North, Central, Tranmere, Rock Ferry, Woodchurch and Upton. During the 22 weeks 10,082 visited the Unit in addition to 6,075 who attended the regular routine weekly static sessions.

The percentage of the "Street by Street" examinees who had not previously had a chest X-ray was 56%.

The Health Visitors for each district co-operated by door to door visitation of the area as the M.M.R. Unit moved from street to street.

The Director of the Unit has stated that much of the success of this campaign was due to the hard work put in by all members of the Health Visiting Staff who carried out the personal canvass of the area.

Details of the clinical findings will be found in the section of the Annual Report dealing with Prevention of Illness - Care and After Care.

FOLLOW-UP OF PERSONS DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITAL.

Notification of discharges from the Paediatric Department of St. Catherine's Hospital and from the Children's Hospital, Birkenhead, are received and the cases visited. Similarly discharges of mothers and infants from the Maternity Department of St. Catherine's Hospital are received.

No notification of the discharge of adult patients is received by the Health Department.

CO-OPERATION WITH GENERAL PRACTITIONERS.

No arrangements have been made for Health Visitors to work in conjunction with a particular General Practitioner or Group of Practitioners.

The services of the Health Visitors naturally are available if asked for by any General Practitioner but there has been no demand.

LIVERPOOL AREA NURSE TRAINING COMMITTEE.

Early in the year Miss C.M. Jones, Superintendent Health Visitor, was appointed to this Committee for five years, to the 31st March, 1966.

VISITING IN THE HOME.

The following is a summary of work done by the Health Visitors:-

- 2833 first visits were paid to infants under one year old.
- 1306 subsequent visits were paid to infants under one year old.
- 20543 routine visits were paid to infants over one year and under five years old.
- 748 first visits were paid to expectant mothers.
- 150 re-visits were paid to expectant mothers.
- 590 visits were paid in connection with miscellaneous matters.
- 8345 visits were paid in which no access could be obtained.
- 488 visits were paid to aged.

CLINIC DUTIES AND ATTENDANCES.

Infant Welfare	1534
Medical Examinations	142
B.C.G. Vaccination	28
Ante-natal Relaxation	96
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	98
Mothercraft (St. Catherine's Hospital)	50
Ascertainment of hearing (under 5)	82
Geriatric Clinic St. Catherine's Hospital	43
Paediatric	79

VISITS TO TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

The homes of cases of tuberculosis are visited regularly by Health Visitors. During the year Health Visitors made 138 first visits and 1322 revisits. On 447 occasions there was no access.

HOME NURSING SERVICE

During the year under review, Miss M. Pringle, the Superintendent (appointed April, 1961) attended a Refresher Course organised by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing held at Liverpool University in September.

It is gratifying to report that the staff establishment of District Nurses was kept up to full strength and no difficulty was experienced in the filling of vacancies.

A greatly increased amount of supervision was carried out by the Superintendent with the assistance of the Senior Nurse, Miss P.E. Goldsmith, and it is felt that these supervisory visits have helped to improve and maintain the standard of nursing techniques.

Gifts of articles of nursing equipment were received for the use and comfort of patients being nursed at home, and many letters of appreciation of the services rendered by the District Nurses were received from patients and relatives.

There has been a slight fall in the number of injections given, but this has been offset by the increase in general nursing cases. The number of late night visits to very ill patients has been the highest recorded.

STATISTICS

		(1960)
Cases brought forward from 1960:	424	426
New Cases dealt with during 1961:	<u>1321</u>	<u>1339</u>
	1745	1765

CLASSIFICATION OF CASES AND VISITS PAID

	Cases		Visits	
	(1961)	(1960)	(1961)	(1960)
Medical	1436	1442	35287	54240
Surgical	230	228	6636	6467
Infectious Diseases	-	1	-	9
Tuberculosis	53	61	3188	1667
Maternal Complications	26	33	306	347
	1745	1765	45417	62730
			(1961)	(1960)
Number of Patients having more than 24 visits in the year			465	347
Number of visits paid to patients over 65			27990	28187
Number of patients under 5 at first visit			48	30
Number of visits paid to under 5's			631	410

CLASSIFICATION OF INJECTIONS

(To patients not having other nursing treatment)

	Cases		Visits	
	(1961)	(1960)	(1961)	(1960)
Penicillin	150	257	1976	2161
Streptomycin	60	63	3785	3522
Mersalyl	84	128	3103	5126
Insulin	10	54	3769	3663
Morphia	8	16	636	210
Cytamen	213	187	4886	3594
Others	30	23	832	297
	555	728	15988	18583

VISITS BY SUPERINTENDENT

	(1961)	(1960)
Supervisory - with Senior Nurse	300	46
Nursing	100	25
Casual	332	17
	<u>732</u>	<u>88</u>

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following is the programme of immunisation practised in the Health Department.

6 - 10 months	1st Dose	Poliomyelitis Vaccine
	2nd Dose	interval of 4 weeks.
9 - 12 months	1st Dose	Triple Vaccine (Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus)
	2nd Dose	interval of 4 - 6 weeks
	3rd Dose	4 - 6 weeks
10 - 14 months		Vaccination against Smallpox
14 - 18 months		'Booster' dose Triple Vaccine
	3rd Dose	Poliomyelitis Vaccine
5 years		'Booster' Diphtheria and Tetanus
8 - 9 years		Re-Vaccination against Smallpox
		'Booster' Diphtheria and Tetanus
13 - 15 years		B.C.G. Vaccination (If any exposure to tuberculosis infection B.C.G. at any age)

Diphtheria Immunisation Alone

Primary Injections -

Up to 8 years	2 doses of F.T. at 4 weeks intervals
Over 8 years	3 doses of T.A.F. at 4 weeks intervals
'Booster' dose	1 c.c. T.A.F.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

It is estimated that 53.1% of children under five years and 84.07% of the school population have been immunised.

	Primary	Reinforcing Injections
0 - 4 years	2,313	69
5 - 9 years	1,000	1,019
10 - 14 years	479	384
15 years and over	52	35
	<hr/> 3,844 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,507 <hr/>

	Medical Officers	General Practitioners
Immunisation against Diphtheria	1,460	233
Reinforcing Injections against Diphtheria	1,119	157
Combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria Immunisation	-	153
Combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria Immunisation (Reinforcing Injection)	-	28
Triple Antigen	1,010	951
Triple Antigen (Reinforcing Injection)	14	172
Immunisation against Diphtheria and Tetanus	28	9
Immunisation against Diphtheria and Tetanus (Reinforcing Injection)	4	13

IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH.

	Infant Welfare Centres	G.P. s.
0 - 1 years	440	170
1 - 2 years	505	522
2 - 3 years	49	131
3 - 4 years	33	89
4 - 5 years	21	76
5 - 6 years	10	83
	<hr/> 1,058 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,071 <hr/>

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

By Medical Officers at Infant Welfare Centres	360
By General practitioners	1,067
	<u>1,427</u>

Age at Date of Vaccination.	0 - 1 years	1 - 2 years	2 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	15 years and over	Total
Number Vaccinated	357	434	59	62	151	1,063
Number Re-Vaccinated	2	1	12	33	316	364

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS.

During 1961 the following injections were given :-

	Health Dept.	General Practitioners	Total
1st & 2nd Injections	6637	9736	16373
3rd Injections	1763	3416	5179
4th Injections	3111	4625	7736

The publicity given by the press, radio and television to the Liverpool campaign coinciding as it did with a number of cases of poliomyelitis in the Liverpool area resulted in Birkenhead general practitioners and clinics receiving thousands of applications for vaccination against poliomyelitis during May and June.

It is a matter for considerable regret that hundreds who accepted one injection did not return for their second although reminder letters were sent out to them and the need for the injection was stressed in the press. 16,373 people received two injections during the year.

Fourth injections for school children under 12 years of age were authorised in April and letters were sent to the parents of all children in the age group telling them of this. 7736 children received their fourth injections during 1961.

The following tabulated statement shows the numbers immunised against Diphtheria each year since 1940:-

Age in Yrs. on 31st Dec of the Corres. Yr.	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	Total immun- ised at 31st Dec 1961
Under 1 yr.	24	1	-	18	9	-	5	30	71	60	27	45	539	535	637	626	524	510	69	148	325	612	
1 year	158	106	419	551	548	714	588	712	1009	1124	1020	981	564	494	378	270	228	467	617	647	860	1161	
2 years	227	201	501	465	347	355	355	241	353	385	316	229	181	261	251	245	294	130	201	217	331	270	
3 years	233	211	414	392	65	139	125	93	113	144	148	80	63	96	75	85	67	60	37	94	191	147	
4 years	248	184	379	382	57	47	75	71	71	84	136	67	86	67	60	77	57	60	40	50	139	123	
5 years	475	244	350	246	60	37	51	55	56	80	212	137	275	136	176	243	232	194	49	47	112	96	
6 years	797	450	264	285	48	27	43	33	31	58	344	135	279	249	236	359	244	141	93	43	115	224	
7 years	903	478	219	320	43	17	26	20	28	41	281	115	150	165	123	186	111	60	40	47	170	278	
8 years	899	511	163	248	23	10	20	26	26	21	331	161	116	98	77	89	74	35	35	26	160	208	
9 years	875	511	129	286	21	12	20	17	11	33	273	131	81	57	44	34	61	27	25	16	91	194	
10 years	898	515	121	240	16	6	27	14	20	22	267	114	124	78	37	21	60	35	12	14	66	172	
11 years	801	655	112	292	16	11	17	8	13	33	221	105	90	46	19	7	25	18	15	8	26	199	
12 years	708	385	113	298	7	1	10	5	14	7	62	57	71	15	7	1	6	7	8	2	12	78	
13 years	623	336	103	198	15	1	5	7	6	7	13	23	123	6	1	4	-	-	-	8	11	18	
14 years	374	250	36	208	19	8	4	7	6	6	14	12	142	7	-	1	-	-	-	3	14	12	
15 years and over	245	132	27	33	24	22	8	15	14	14	11	19	16	12	6	8	9	3	4	-	36	52	
																							Aged 15yrs & over - 33580
Total each Year	8488	5170	3350	4462	1318	1407	1379	1354	1842	2119	3676	2471	2900	2322	2127	2256	1992	1747	1245	1370	2659	3844	Grand Total 59498
Reinforcing Injections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	123	77	4352	2368	2198	1428	1715	1339	2150	1344	746	355	2322	1507	22071

AMBULANCE SERVICE

I am indebted to the Chief Fire Officer for the following report on this service for 1961.

The Ambulance Service attended a total of 55,971 calls, an increase of 2,973 upon last year's figure, and the largest yearly total to date.

Ambulances travelled a total mileage of 189,882, an increase of 12,508 miles. The above involved the moving of 54,616 patients and attending 1,562 incidents where patients were not conveyed. (See Statistics "Ambulances not Required" and "Special Services").

Malicious False Alarms showed an unwelcome upward trend, 43 such calls being received; an increase of 17 on the previous year.

Transport was provided for the Emergency Maternity Flying Squad on 23 occasions, almost double the number last year and resuscitation equipment was used 59 times, sometimes in conjunction with Fire Brigade equipment.

Demand for conveyance of Midwives during the night hours continued to increase and such conveyance was provided on no less than 592 occasions during the year.

I think it must now be accepted that calls upon the Ambulance Service will continue to expand year by year and any thought on future planning on manpower, appliances or accommodation must be geared with this fact in mind. The present policy of working three normal shifts with an additional day shift to cope with the heavy periods continues to work well and when the 48-hour-week becomes operative this principle will still have to be followed.

The last few weeks of the year saw the service operating under extremely bad weather conditions, roads being treacherous, and this, coupled with periods of dense fog, slowed the service down, and an inevitable build-up of cases awaiting transport occurred on a number of occasions. Nevertheless, all cases were eventually cleared each day and emergencies continued to receive the usual priority. This was mainly due to ambulance crews remaining out on radio call and even going without meal breaks in order to cover the Borough effectively.

Two Shift Leaders attended Ambulance and First Aid Section Instructor's Re-Qualifying Courses at the Home Office Civil Defence School, Falfield.

CLASSIFICATION OF CALLS

Classification	Type	Calls	Patients	Mileage
Emergency	Home Accidents	619	621	2963
	Works Accidents	546	555	2162
	Street Accidents	1159	1275	4844
	Maternity	1115	1115	5327
	Emergency Illness	1880	1880	9064
Removals	Ambulances	29371	29451	106055
	Sitting Cars	19719	19719	52748
Special Services	Midwives Bedding etc	744	-	4042
Ambulances not Required	Malicious False Alarms	46	-	136
	Others	772	-	2541
		55971	54616	189882

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The Domestic Help Service continues ever on the increase. As will be seen from statistics the major use of the service is by the chronic sick.

The services provided enable the aged, infirm, and chronic sick to remain in their own homes, thus relieving Hospitals and Homes.

The services of domestic helps are available for confinements, ante-natal and post-natal cases and for persons who owing to sickness or infirmity require assistance in their homes.

The new charges and methods of assessments, which commenced on the 1st April, 1961, relieve considerably the financial worry of the aged in poor circumstances.

CASES PROVIDED WITH DOMESTIC HELP DURING THE YEAR.

	(1960)	(1961)
Maternity	72	68
Tuberculosis	3	5
Chronic Sick, Aged & Infirm	625	672
Others	26	41
	<u>726</u>	<u>786</u>

NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED BY DOMESTIC HELPERS:-

	(1960)	(1961)
Maternity, Illness, etc. Cases	4319½	5477½
Chronic Sick, Aged and Infirm	78366½	83421½
	<u>82686</u>	<u>88899</u>

The following table shows the growth of the Domestic Help Service since 1948:-

	<u>Hours Worked</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Visits - Organiser and Assistant</u>
1948	14626	112	N/A
1949	21905	292	N/A
1950	40205	355	1386
1951	47889	432	1376
1952	53431	467	1745
1953	60856	480	1894
1954	61646	488	1784
1955	60497	533	1347
1956	62057	616	1486
1957	63290	611	1457
1958	71329	618	1185 *
1959	72059	663	1055 *
1960	82686	726	1684
1961	88899	786	1863

* Figure down due to staff changes.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS - CARE AND AFTER CARE

CARE AND AFTER CARE COMMITTEE.

The constitution of the Committee remains unchanged. Examination of contacts is carried out by Dr. Eric Blackstock, Tuberculosis Medical Officer at the Central Chest Clinic, 42, Hamilton Square where the Tuberculosis Almoner also has her office.

Nursing equipment, destructible paper cups, paper handkerchiefs and free milk are supplied where required.

The Almoner held 1,347 office interviews during the year and made 1,421 home and hospital visits.

72 patients were referred to the National Assistance Board for financial help and 186 cases were referred to the Corkhill Trust and other organisations.

22 families were referred for rehousing, 6 families were rehoused during the year.

Convalescence was arranged for 23 patients. The John Lloyd Corkhill Trust met the cost of 21 of these cases.

HEALTH VISITING.

The Health Visitors continue to visit regularly all cases of tuberculosis occurring in the Borough which have been notified to the Medical Officer of Health, advising as to nursing methods and prevention of the spread of the disease.

On the initial visit, details of contacts are obtained and, together with details of housing and family conditions, are reported to the Chest Physicians for their information.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY.

Under our arrangement with the Anne Glassey Workshop, Wallasey, 20 of our patients attended the Workshop daily for occupational therapy. 10 patients attended the Class for outpatients held at St. James Hospital each Thursday afternoon.

On the appointment of a part-time handicraft teacher, home tuition has been given for one session weekly and individual teaching on the wards increased to two sessions each week.

Handicraft materials are supplied to patients at home and in hospital.

REHABILITATION.

More patients are able to return to their former employment on completion of treatment, but there still remains a group of people who are so disabled by their tubercle that they require a gradual rehabilitation into normal employment, and a smaller group who require permanent sheltered employment.

Of these two groups four patients were referred direct to the Ministry of Labour for rehabilitation and training and 24 were placed at the Anne Glassey Workshop for the Tuberculous. Of the 24 patients placed at the Workshop 7 were returned to normal employment in outside industry, 4 were accepted as Ministry of Labour Trainees, and 3 permanently disabled cases were given full time employment under sheltered conditions.

EXAMINATION OF CONTACTS.

During the year 724 new child contacts were called for clinical examination and Mantoux test, and 513 new adult contacts were given appointments for X-ray examination - of these 577 children attended and 311 adults were X-rayed.

3 adults were found to have active respiratory tuberculosis and 3 children to have primary lesions.

The ratio of contacts per notified case was 9.866.

B.C.G. VACCINATION AT CHEST CLINIC.

As stated above 577 children were given Mantoux tests, 45 of this number were found to be mantoux positive and were sent for X-ray of the chest. 3 children were found to be suffering from primary lesions.

Of the remaining 532 cases, 492 children were vaccinated; 374 at the Chest Clinic and 118 at other hospitals.

56 student nurses attended for mantoux tests. 41 nurses were found to have a positive mantoux and of the remaining 15 who were negative 8 attended for B.C.G. vaccination.

B.C.G. VACCINATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

This is carried out by Medical Officers of the Health Department. Children found to be positive following a Mantoux test are sent for an X-ray examination to the Mass Radiography Unit.

Certain cases are referred to the Consultant Chest Physician.

Children who have been vaccinated are followed up for five years.

Parents Notified	Mantoux Test					Referred to Chest Physician
	Children tested	Weak Positive	Strong Positive	Negative	Given B.C.G.	
2804	1419	290	205	924	913	182

RESULTS OF THE "STREET BY STREET"

MASS RADIOGRAPHY CAMPAIGN

29TH MAY - 25TH OCTOBER, 1961.

	TOTALS		GRAND TOTAL
	MALES	FEMALES	
Total number of Miniature Examinations	3102	6980	10,082
Total Number of Recall Large Films	105	213	318
% Rate for Recall Large Films	3.2%		
Classification of Cases Diagnosed:-			
Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	5	7
Tuberculosis Occasional Supervision	13	28	41
Tuberculosis. Known Cases	5	2	7
Neoplasm. Malignant	8	1	9
Neoplasm. Non-Malignant	1	1	2
Sarcoids	3	1	4
Cardiac Abnormalities - Referred	7	21	28

M E N T A L H E A L T H S E R V I C E

MENTAL ILLNESS.

Admissions to Hospitals under the Mental Health Act, 1959, as arranged by the Mental Welfare Staff:-

Part IV.

	M.	F.	Total
Section 25	17	39	56
Section 26	12	17	29
Section 29	83	90	173

Part V.

Section 60	3	-	3
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Admissions under other Acts of Parliament

	M.	F.	Total
Criminal Justice Act	1	2	3
Section 4			

Informal Admissions to Hospital

M.	F.	Total
85	104	189

Cases referred to Psychiatrists but no further action necessary:

M.	F.	Total
4	18	22

Cases referred to Mental Welfare Officers by Police

M.	F.	Total
40	14	54

MENTAL SUBNORMALITY.

New cases notified during 1960:

	M	F	Total
Under Education Act, 1944: Section 57			
Sub-Section 3	1	-	1
Section 57			
Sub-Section 4	6	6	12
Section 57			
Sub-Section 5	-	1	1
Police and Courts	5	-	5
Inward Transfers	-	2	2

Admission to Hospitals:

	M	F	Total
Permanent Care	10	11	21
Temporary Care	7	6	13
Under Section 26, Mental Health Act, 1959	1	2	3
Waiting List for Hospital Admissions:			
Urgent	4	2	6
Non-Urgent	6	2	8
Appeals to Tribunal:	1	-	1 (failed)
Deaths during year:	-	1	1

	M.	F	Total
Attendance at Junior Training Centre:			
On Register	16	23	39
Average attendance during year			33

	M.	F.	Total
Position as at 31.12.61			
Number in Hospital	104	88	192
Number under Guardianship	2	1	3
Number under Home Supervision	107	101	208
Number on Register	213	190	403

STAFF CHANGES.

Mr. A. Reece retired in August, 1961, following forty years service with the Local Authority. Mr. Hayes joined the Mental Welfare Staff in April, 1961, and with Mr. Hotchkiss attended a Course on mental Health organised by the National Association for Mental Health. The Health Committee recommended to the Council that a Senior Mental Welfare Officer be appointed. This was approved and in December, 1961, Mr. J. Reid was appointed Senior Mental Welfare Officer to commence duties early in 1962. This appointment brings the establishment to one senior and three mental welfare officers.

MENTAL ILLNESS.

During the first full year under the Mental Health Act, 1959, arrangements have worked smoothly.

Case Conferences have been held at Deva Hospital which have been attended by members of the Mental Welfare Staff. These have proved very helpful and the members of the medical staff of the hospital have been very co-operative. This spirit of co-operation is evident at St. Catherine's Hospital also. This has been reflected in the increased number of patients wishing to have after-care.

In spite of the ease of informal admissions to Mental Hospitals the services of the Mental Welfare Staff have continued to be sought by general practitioners to arrange admission of their patients to hospital. Cases discharged from hospital and needing Hostel accommodation prior to a full return to community life have not presented a problem. The numbers have been so few that they have been absorbed into the Hostels of the Welfare Department without difficulty.

MENTAL SUBNORMALITY.

The Junior Training Centre at Wallasey has been well attended. No further developments have taken place with regard to the provision by Wallasey County Borough of an Adult Training Centre. The acquisition of a suitable site has presented difficulties, but it is hoped that in the ensuing year progress will be made.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Duties under this Act have been assigned to the Welfare Committee of the Council.

The Medical Officer of Health is in administrative control of the Welfare Department, the staff of which is housed in the Health Department offices.

There is the utmost co-operation between the staffs, and useful information about handicapped persons or the aged and infirm is exchanged between the Welfare Department and Health Visitors, Public Health Inspectors, Mental Welfare Officers, and the Domestic Help Organiser.

During the year, no cases required to be dealt with under Section 47 of the Act. Several cases were visited, but in each, it was eventually found possible to take alternative action.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

Indoor swimming baths are provided in the Borough at Byrne Avenue and Livingstone Street Baths. There are two swimming pools at each of these premises, and while all pools are open during the summer months, one pool at each establishment is closed during the winter months for conversion into a hall.

Until December, 1959 the swimming bath water at Byrne Avenue and Livingstone Street Baths was obtained by pumping salt water from the River Mersey. This practice continues in respect of Livingstone Street Baths, but at Byrne Avenue the supply is now taken from the town's main; pure dried vacuum salt is added to provide reconstituted salt water.

The swimming pool water is constantly changed by a continuous circulation system, during which it is chemically treated, filtered, heated, aerated, and sterilised by a marginal chlorination process. The Water in the Baths is changed routinely every six months, but additional water is added at intervals for "make-up" purposes to replace losses.

Periodic bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service. Daily tests are carried out by the Baths Department Staff to ensure satisfactory alkalinity and chlorine factors.

SEWERAGE

The Borough is adequately sewered with the exception of a small area on the Western fringe.

This area, together with adjacent areas in Wallasey County Borough, Hoylake Urban District Council and Wirral Urban District Council, has been the subject of a combined scheme for improvement of the outfall which has received the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Questions have arisen about the implementation of the scheme which have not yet been resolved.

The sewerage from the Borough is discharged untreated into the River Mersey.

W A T E R S U P P L Y

I am indebted to the Water Engineer for the following report upon water supplies in the Borough.

The two main sources of supply are the Alwen Reservoir situated on the Denbighshire Moors in North Wales and abstraction from the River Dee at Heronbridge near Chester. In addition, deep wells at Springhill and Flaybrick within the statutory area are used to augment the output during periods of high demand.

The supply within the Borough is a mixed Alwen/Dee water which is moderately soft in character, but slight variations do occur according to the condition of the raw Dee water abstracted and dependent upon the use of the well supplies. During the summer period, if the river flow is low then there is a tendency for the hardness of the supplies distributed to increase.

The Waterworks laboratory on the Dee Scheme is operated by a full time Chemist and Bacteriologist who supervises the treatment processes and undertakes regular chemical and bacteriological examinations of the raw water and the treated water to ensure purity of supplies to the consumer.

The Works of the Department continue to be a source of interest to the public and numerous visits to Alwen and Dee Works have been arranged during the year.

The Water Authorities of Birkenhead, Wallasey, Hoylake, Neston and the West Cheshire Water Board are still in the process of negotiation regarding the formation of a single Undertaking for the Wirral Area.

The supply to the statutory area has in all cases been satisfactory, both in quality and quantity, and this also applies to the water afforded to our bulk consumers.

Approximately some 850 bacteriological examinations of supplies are made annually, the majority of which are in respect of the final treated water. The following are typical results :-

	Raw Water			Final Water			Mixed Supply
	Dee	Alwen	Wells	Dee	Alwen	Wells	
No. of Colonies on Agar 1 day at 37°C per ml.	350	6	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Colonies on Agar 3 days at 22°C per ml.	4000	350	5	0	3	3	3
Presumptive coli present in	0.01ml.	1.0 ml.	- ml.	-ml.	ml.	ml.	ml.
Presumptive coli absent from	- ml.	0.1 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.
Probable No. per 100 ml.	3500	90	0	0	0	0	0
Bact.Coli (Type 1) present in	0.1 ml.	1.0 ml.	- ml.	-ml.	- ml.	- ml.	- ml.
Bact.Coli (Type 1) absent from	0.01ml.	0.1 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.
Probable No. per 100 ml.	2500	90	0	0	0	0	0

Treatment of the Alwen supply is by pressure filtration followed by sterilisation by chlorine and ammonia.

Treatment of the Dee supply is by settlement in upward flow sedimentation tanks followed by rapid gravity filtration and super chlorination.

Treatment of the Wells supply - marginal chlorination only.

The following are the results of chemical analyses :-

Chemical Analysis (p.p.m.)	Alwen	Dee	Mixed
Alkalinity (CaCO_3)	18	92	31
Chlorides (Cl)	9.1	22.0	12.0
Amoniacal Nitrogen	0.076	0.007	0.060
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.038	0.03	0.015
Nitrogen as Nitrites	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.0	1.2	0.33
Oxygen absorbed 3 hrs. at 27°C	2.1	0.68	1.4
Temporary hardness	18	92	31
Permanent hardness	16	22	17
Total hardness	34	114	48
Total Solids (dried at 180°C)	66	208	80
Calcium (Ca)	12.4	36.0	16.0
Magnesium (Mg)	0.7	5.7	1.9
Carbonate (CO_3)	10.8	55.2	18.6
Sulphate (SO_4)	21.4	53.2	32.5
Aluminium (Al)	0.6	0.05	0.5
Iron (Fe)	0.1	0.02	0.1
Manganese (Mn)	0.07	0.02	0.05
Zinc (zn)	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.
Poisonous Metals	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.
Total Residual Chlorine	0.16	0.05	Nil

The water as put into supply is not plumbo solvent in action. In addition to the regular bacteriological examinations, all new mains before being put into operation are sterilised and similar action is taken after the cleaning of any tanks or service reservoirs.

The estimated number of dwellings in the Borough is 40,629 and population 141,750. All properties are supplied direct from the distribution system but there are a number of old houses, possibly some 40 - 50, which do not have an inside supply but are each provided with an outside W.C. and a tap in the back yard. These properties are fast being demolished.

HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

I am obliged to the Chief Public Health Inspector for the following report on the work of his Section of the Department during the year.

INTRODUCTION.

There has been one change in the staffing of the department. The Inspector in charge of food hygiene in shops, food preparing premises, cafes, etc., resigned at the end of June to take up an appointment with another authority. At the end of the year the resulting vacancy had not been filled. This accounts for a reduction in the number of visits to food premises and it seemed apparent in a few instances that there had been some slacking off in the attention given to cleanliness at some shops. Constant visiting of food premises is vital if a good standard of hygiene is to be maintained.

It is pleasing to be able to report that the second full time pupil inspector was successful in passing the Board's examination and was appointed a public health inspector in June. The training scheme has, therefore, been of great benefit to the department.

There are no major matters to report in the years work. More attention and time is being given to the attainment of Clean Air. A considerable portion of the department's time is now taken up with the establishment of smoke control areas and with the systematic measurement of air pollution which was started towards the end of the year.

INSPECTION AND REPAIR OF DWELLING HOUSES.

All repairs to houses have been secured as a result of the service of notices under the Public Health Act, 1936 and the Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954. No notices were served under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957.

2,318 complaints were received during the year. This is in addition to complaints made to the inspectors on their districts.

No. of inspections under the Public Health Act, etc.	11,815
No. of re-inspections under the Public Health Act, etc.	14,746
No. of informal notices served under the Public Health Act	1,535
No. of Statutory notices served under the Public Health Act	487
No. of Statutory notices served under the Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954. Sec. 52	173
No. of Statutory notices served under the Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954. Sec. 66	3
Average number of notices outstanding	495

No. of notices complied with during the year	1,646
Number of defects remedied during the year	5,071

Summary of Improvements effected :-

Roofs repaired	621
Chimney stacks repaired	127
Rainwater gutters repaired	304
Downspouts repaired	149
Walls pointed or repaired	259
Lighting or ventilation improved	15
Windows repaired	220
Window sashcords renewed	271
Firegrates repaired	23
Hearthstones repaired	3
Floors relaid or repaired	212
Skirting boards repaired	50
Wallplaster repaired	410
Ceiling plaster repaired	124
Walls and ceilings cleansed	6
Doors repaired	281
Staircases repaired	26
Sinks renewed	14
Sink waste pipes trapped or repaired	110
Washing boilers repaired	3
Dampness remedied	242
Yard surfaces repaired or relaid	118
Yards drained	20
Sufficient water supply provided	73
Drains constructed, altered or repaired	135
Drains cleansed	327
Water closets repaired	395
Food stores provided	4
Watercourses or ditches cleansed	5
Tents, Vans, Sheds removed	4
Nuisance from animals abated	16
Land drains provided	3
Rooms disinfested	294
Miscellaneous	308

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal proceedings under Sec: 94, Public Health Act 1936, were instituted in 5 cases where owners had failed to comply with the requirements of abatement notices.

No fines were inflicted; costs of 4/- were awarded in one case.

Two cases were withdrawn as the work was completed at the time of the hearing of the summonses.

The Magistrates made a nuisance order in 1 case where the nuisance was still outstanding at the time of the hearing of the summons.

Proceedings were instituted under Sec:95; Public Health Act, 1936 in 1 case where the Nuisance Order had not been complied with.

A fine of £10.0.0. was imposed.

It was necessary to obtain a Magistrates' Order to effect a forcible entry into an unoccupied house and to repair a burst water pipe which caused a nuisance at the adjoining premises.

Work done by Local Authority in default of owners.

The Local Authority cleansed obstructed drains at 47 houses where owners failed to comply with 48 hour notices under the provisions of Sec:52 of the Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954.

By agreement with or at the request of owners, repairs of a general nature were completed at six houses under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The costs of the above work are recoverable from the responsible persons and amounted to £202. 1. 4d. during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1957. SECS: 17 AND 18.

Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation.

40 houses and parts of buildings used as dwellings were reported to the Health Committee as being unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered so fit at reasonable expense.

During the year the Council made the following Orders :-

Demolition Orders in respect of	10 houses
Closing Orders	8 houses
	and of 2 parts of buildings.

In addition, undertakings, restricting the future use to non-residential purposes, were accepted in respect of 4 houses and consideration of the making of an order was deferred in 3 cases.

Demolition and Closing of Unfit Dwellings.

Following the re-housing of the occupants of unfit dwellings, 4 houses were demolished and 26 houses or parts of buildings were closed during the year.

8 other houses were also demolished in anticipation of formal action.

In almost all cases the tenants were re-housed by the Corporation and 47 families comprising a total of 146 persons were involved.

Housing Act, 1957: Sec: 42.

Clearance Areas.

In accordance with the Act, official representations were made in respect of the undermentioned areas, and the Council declared them to be "Clearance Areas".

Area	No. of dwellings	No. of Families	No. of persons.
George Street Nos:1,2,3,4 and 5 Clearance Areas 1961	140	190	664
Hope Street " Area 1961	66	82	260
School Place " " 1961	81	94	354
Price Street " " 1961	15	20	65
Chester Street " " 1961	19	20	66
Cathcart Street " " 1961	5	9	25
	326	415	1434

In 1961 the Minister of Housing and Local Government confirmed that all the dwellings included in the undermentioned areas were unfit :-

Meadow Lane Nos: 1, 2 and 3	Clearance Areas	1960
Thomas Street	"	Area 1960
Frederick Street	"	Area 1960
Brook Street	"	Area 1960
Back St. Anne Street	"	Area 1960

Well maintained payments were awarded in respect of 25 houses included in the above areas.

Proposals for Slum Clearance (Sec: 2).

It is to be regretted that during the year the Council considered it necessary to reduce the number of new houses to be made available for Slum Clearance purposes.

It will be recalled that in 1960 the whole question of Slum Clearance had been reviewed at the request of the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

The new programme provided for approximately 2,400 unfit dwellings to be dealt with in the five year period 1960 - 1965. A further 2,600 were provisionally listed as likely to form the basis of the clearance work for the ensuing 10 years.

The properties included in the five year programme are, of course, in very poor condition and their clearance is long overdue.

The completion of the subsequent 10 year programme would have ensured that Slum Clearance as a serious problem would have ceased to exist.

Unfortunately the drastic reductions made during the past year will, if continued, seriously affect the whole aspect of Slum Clearance.

Not only will large numbers of houses, already long overdue for clearance, be occupied for several years, but it will be difficult to see when the problem will be conquered or indeed, to decide whether or not we are in fact losing ground.

It is to be hoped, therefore, that circumstances will permit the present restrictions to be removed in the very near future.

Rent Act, 1957.

Very little use has been made of the provisions of this Act during the year under review.

I would again recommend persons requiring information about this Act, to apply to this department.

Formal details of the applications made for the issue and cancellation of certificates are set out below :-

Part 1 - Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

1.)	Number of applications for certificates	8
2.)	Number of decisions not to issue certificates	Nil
3.)	Number of decisions to issue certificates	8
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	6
	(b) in respect of all defects	2
4.)	Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	7
5.)	Number of undertakings refused by the Local Authority under the proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil
6.)	Number of Certificates issued (includes 1 issued in respect of an application made in 1960)	2

Part 2 - Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

7.)	Applications by landlords for cancellation of certificates of disrepair	8
8.)	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	1

9.)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of objection by tenant	Nil
10.)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	7

In addition four certificates as to the remedying of defects were issued.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959.

Standard Grants.

58 applications for standard grants were made during the year. This compares with 97 applications in the previous year. Applications are still almost exclusively from owner/occupiers. There were also 11 applications for discretionary grants.

In my opinion these grants are doing little or nothing to improve the general standard of housing in any district of the Borough.

Common Lodging Houses.

There was no change in the number of Common Lodging Houses during the year. The six registered premises provide accommodation for 241 men.

There are no lodging houses for women.

80 visits were made to these premises during the year. Most are conducted in a reasonable manner but one house is frequented by the rougher type of lodger and has given rise to some difficulties.

At this house bedding was insufficient and sometimes unclean, rooms were locked preventing adequate inspection, there was mis-use of sanitary accommodation causing annoyance to occupiers of neighbouring properties. The keeper was threatened that his registration would not be renewed at the end of the year and at some trouble and after much time had been spent, the keeper appointed new deputies and it seems that there will be some improvement. It is of course difficult to provide suitable accommodation for the very lowest stratum of society including the "down and outs" and "ne-er - do - wells".

Smoke Abatement.

During the year our main energies were directed toward the establishment of Clean Air Zones.

In February the Birkenhead (Area No. 1) Woodchurch Smoke Control Order was made and submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government. No objections were received and the Order was confirmed in July without the holding of an enquiry and without modification. The Order becomes operative on the 1st July, 1962. This area covers 594 acres and contained 3002 premises when the Order was made but considerable building has taken place since that time. At the end of the year no progress had been made in carrying out the adaptations necessary although every house owner had been notified of the alterations required.

A second area known as the Bidston Smoke Control Area was surveyed during the first half of the year. This area contains 719 premises in an area of 386 acres.

At the end of the year arrangements were made for the survey of a third area.

This work involved making 2472 visits.

Industrial.

On the industrial side the following figures show the extent and kind of work done :-

Number of complaints received	11
Number of smoke observations made	471
Number of visits to factories	97
Number of other visits	62
Number of warning or advisory letters sent	17

Improvements

Conversion from solid fuel to electricity	3
Conversion from solid fuel to oil	1
Conversion from Bituminous coal to smokeless fuel	2
Improved furnaces	1
Improved type of boiler installation	1
Smoke indicators installed	1
Smoke recorders installed	1
Inefficient plant dismantled	2

The above changes include the closing down of inefficient electricity generating plant using 6,200 tons of bituminous coal annually. Electric power is now taken from the National Grid System.

Clean Air Act, 1956.

Notifications of installation of furnaces (Sec: 3)	18
Prior approval given to new furnace installation (Sec: 3)	1
New chimney heights approved (Sec:10)	10
Existing chimneys used	5
Chimneys not approved but exempt	1

National Survey of Air Pollution.

The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research began a National Survey of Air Pollution during the year and at their request the Birkenhead Council set up 4 daily volumetric smoke and sulphur-di-oxide measuring instruments at specially selected stations as follows :-

1. Corporation Abattoir New Chester Road	In an industrial area likely to be subject to heavy pollution.
2. Central Library Borough Road	A densely built up residential area.
3. Corporation Water Tower Boundary Road	A lightly built residential area.
4. Shop, Home Farm Road Woodchurch Estate.	A smoke control area.

These stations were chosen with the approval of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. The results from these stations will be recorded along with the results from hundreds of stations throughout the country. It is expected that a pattern of air pollution will emerge from a comparison of results, and that improvement or otherwise in the degree of air pollution will be statistically demonstrable.

Each instrument consists of a small electric pump drawing in about 70 cubic feet of air every 24 hours. The air passes through a filter paper where the smoke is taken out and shows as a grey stain. This can be accurately measured electrically and the amount of smoke per cubic foot of air calculated. The air then passes through a solution of hydrogen peroxide which extracts the sulphur-di-oxide from the air. This can then be measured.

The filter papers and hydrogen peroxide solution have to be changed each morning and as the instruments are installed in widely separated places their daily attention is somewhat time consuming. However, it is hoped that the information obtained will make the operation worthwhile.

Railways.

In June the local passenger services were converted to Diesel engined traction and this has resulted in improved atmospheric conditions around Woodside Station, the railway lines through the Borough and to some extent at the maintenance depots.

Shipping.

Again, less attention has been given to shipping within the Borough boundaries, but during the year 15 observations and 11 visits were made to offending vessels. Advice on the best means of obtaining smokeless combustion was given to the ships staffs, and where appropriate letters have been sent to offending owners.

Progress continues slowly among the smaller local vessels in conversion to oil firing or diesel engined propulsion. New vessels are either oil fired or diesel engined.

Nuisance from Dust.

This nuisance which had been troublesome at the North end of the Borough for a considerable time has now been abated and measurements of the pollution by means of the Standard Deposit Gauge were discontinued.

EXTERMINATION OF PESTS.

Rats and Mice.

(a) In Sewers. All sewer manholes, except those found to be free from infestation on "test baiting", were treated twice during the year. This is in accordance with instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

No. of manholes baited	7730
No. of "partial" takes recorded	11
No. of "complete" takes recorded	2716
No. of manholes "test baited"	3030

(b) In surface premises.

No. of premises inspected	645
No. of premises found to be infested with rats or mice	443
No. of treatments by rodent operator	392
Total number of visits by rodent operator	1131
Total number of visits by Public Health Inspectors	814

Insect Pests.

No. of houses involved	79
No. of rooms treated	294
Other premises	Nil
Verminous articles treated	1
Verminous persons cleansed	8

A nominal charge is made for this work.

9 occupiers of 21 premises retain the services of the rodent operator to make regular visits to their premises throughout the year to keep them free from rats, mice and insect pests.

Disinfection.

6 rooms in 1 house were disinfected during the year.

Arrangements were made for the disinfection of 2 lots of bedding.

BIRKENHEAD CORPORATION ACT 1881. Section 90 - PIG KEEPING.

No new applications for permission to keep pigs were received.

At two premises the keeping of pigs was discontinued.

There are now 25 pig-keepers in the Borough.

THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS AND CINEMAS.

104 visits were made during the year. These premises are well conducted and defects speedily remedied by the proprietors.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

The department is responsible for the issue of licences to persons, other than pharmacists, who sell by retail those poisons set out in Part II of the Poisons List.

New licences issued during the year	8
Licences renewed during the year	162
Change of address	1
No. of visits to shops	191

THE RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

In accordance with the provisions of the above Act the undermentioned premises have been included in the Statutory Register.

Premises licensed for the manufacture and storage of Rag Flock	1
Premises registered for the manufacture of new upholstery	5

32 visits of inspection were made and the undermentioned samples were submitted to the prescribed analysts for analysis :-

	Passed	Failed	Total
Rag Flock	8	-	8
Hair Mixture	1	-	1
Feathers and Down	2	-	2
Coir Fibre	1	-	1
	<u>12</u>		<u>12</u>

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

No applications for the establishment of new trades were received.

THE BIRKENHEAD CORPORATION ACT 1954.**Register of Barbers and Hairdressers.**

New registrations during the year	16
Number on register at end of year	155
Number of visits to hairdressers premises	31

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959.**Part I of the Act.**

1. **INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Secs: 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	39	20	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec: 7 is enforced by L.A.	451	181	12	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec: 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises)	40	32	-	-
	530	233	12	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Insp. (4)	Referred By H.M. Insp. (5)	
Want of cleanness (S. 1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S. 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	16	13	-	6	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
	17	14	-	7	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork - Sections 110 and 111.

Four outworkers were included in the August List required by Section 110 (1) (c) as making, etc. cleaning and washing wearing apparel.

MILK SUPPLY.

Practically the whole of the milk supply to Birkenhead is from five wholesale processors and bottlers, a large proportion coming from the two plants situated within the Borough. These process a total of about 150,000 gallons of milk each week.

Supervision and sampling control are therefore directed mainly at these two places and samples are also taken from milk sold in the Borough but originating elsewhere.

During the year 11 complaints were received regarding foreign material in milk, 10 of these being in respect of school milk. Fragments of glass were found in 3 cases, old foil bottle caps in 3 cases and silver wrapping paper in another case. Complaints were also received from schools regarding a pin in an unopened bottle, and of dirt and chalk on the top of opened bottles. In the first of these cases the pupil admitted after lengthy questioning that he had pushed the pin into the bottle through the foil cap and in the other two cases the nature and situation of the foreign matter on the milk made it very doubtful that this contamination occurred at the dairy. The other complaint was regarding insect larvae which were adhering firmly to the inside of a milk bottle.

Three complaints were received in respect of milk supplied in dirty bottles.

In appropriate cases the bottlers of the milk were cautioned.

In addition, 11 complaints were received from schools of badly damaged bottles being received. In most cases when the foil cap was removed by the pupil fragments of glass fell into milk, rendering it unusable. As yet there is no sign of a non-returnable container for milk being provided by the trade at a price to compete with the glass bottle. Until such a container and the necessary plant are developed and installed, it is difficult to prevent these complaints occurring, and it seems a pity that more effort cannot be made to speed this development.

The numbers of registered dairies and dairymen and of licences issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations are :-

No. of registered dairies	43
No. of registered dairymen	241
Dealers licences to sell pre-packed milk	239
Dealers licence to bottle Tuberculin Tested milk	1
Processor's licences to pasteurise milk	2
Numbers of visits to dairymen's premises	321

Bacteriological examination of milk.

Samples were submitted with the following results :-

	Passed	Failed	Total
Pasteurised milk	104	2	106
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	112	6	118
Sterilised milk	36	-	36
Tuberculin Tested milk	10	7	17
	262	15	277

The phosphatase test was satisfactory for all samples, the failures being in respect of the methylene blue test. Thirteen of the fifteen samples which failed that test were obtained from milk vending machines. There are now only 7 of these machines in the Borough and the high percentage of failures is again an indication that stocks are not being turned over at the necessary regular frequent intervals.

Chemical Analysis of Milk.

204 samples of milk were submitted for analysis :-

189 samples were reported as genuine

5 samples were reported as deficient of fat.

8 samples were reported as deficient of fat and naturally deficient of non-fatty solids

2 samples reported as containing added water.

Of the genuine samples 18 were naturally deficient of non-fatty solids. In those cases where the bulked milk was deficient, the Ministry of Agriculture Advisory Department was asked to assist in improving the quality.

All the samples adversely reported upon were taken in the course of delivery to the wholesale dairies.

The 5 samples of milk deficient in fat were from 4 farmers. In all cases the fat content of milk in other churns of the same consignment made up for the deficiency so that the bulked milk of each farmer was satisfactory.

The 8 samples deficient in fat and naturally deficient in non-fatty solids were from 3 farmers. The bulked milk in all cases was satisfactory in fat content and non-fatty solids.

The 2 samples reported as containing added water were from a consignment of 6 cans. Two of these other samples were naturally deficient in non-fatty solids and two were genuine. The farmer was cautioned.

ICE CREAM.

The high standard of cleanliness and quality set during the previous years has been maintained. Routine inspection and sampling has shown that the Regulations governing the manufacture and handling of ice cream are being fully implemented by the trade.

Details of the premises retained on the Statutory Register are as follows :-

Premises registered for the manufacture of Pasteurised Ice Cream	14
Premises registered for the manufacture of Cold Mix Ice Cream	13
Premises registered for the manufacture of Lolly Ices only	8
Premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream and/or Lolly Ices	578
Number of visits paid to premises	196

There are a number of premises included in the above figures from the register, at which the manufacture of ice cream is not very regular or frequent. The tendency is still for retailers to handle supplies from wholesale manufacturers and supplement these if required, during peak periods of consumption, with ice cream of their own manufacture.

100 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for Bacteriological analysis during the year and reported upon as follows :-

Samples of Ice Cream placed in Grade I	69
" " " " " " " " II	14
" " " " " " " " III	9
" " " " " " " " IV	8
	<hr/>
	100
	<hr/>

In connection with the Grade IV samples, further samples of ice cream mix or rinses from plant and equipment were taken in order to find the cause of the failure to reach the required standard.

WATER SUPPLY.

27 samples of drinking water were taken from various points within the Borough for Bacteriological examination.

The reports were satisfactory in every case.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

48 samples of water from the two public swimming baths in the Borough were taken for Bacteriological examination.

The results were uniformly good from one bath, but some unsatisfactory results were obtained from the other, mainly during the summer months when the plate counts in respect of 7 samples were greater than 300. In 7 cases *B. coli* was present in 100 mls of water.

FOOD HYGIENE.

As already mentioned the full time food hygiene inspector left the service of the Corporation in June and the resultant vacancy had not been filled at the time of writing this report. An attempt will be made in the coming year to share his work amongst district inspectors. The result may be an increase in the number of visits being made but this will be at the cost of uniformity in the administration of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

I consider this work to be of a specialist nature and in a town of this size advantages are to be obtained by the work being done by one or two inspectors who quickly acquire special knowledge of the problems of the food industry and who build up a good personal relationship with the persons engaged in the industry.

Although no flagrant contraventions have been found during the year there have been a number of complaints towards the end of the year of the unsatisfactory state of some of the smaller shops. Generally speaking the standard has been fairly high. A special tribute should be paid to the efforts made to improve standards in the Market Hall. Considerable sums of money have been spent by stall holders to improve the appearance of the stalls and to provide protection from contamination for the food on display. The improvement is not only in appearance, for many stall holders have now installed individual hot water supplies which is a great advance on the old method of carrying a bucket of hot water as required, from the communal wash-room, which in the case of some stalls is a good distance away.

Complaints were also received in respect of mobile shops particularly on the larger housing estates. Generally these complaints arise through intense competition between hawkers and established shopkeepers. The hawkers complied with the Regulations.

The number of Food Hawkers has increased from 35 to 42 during the year. The standard of cleanliness and equipment of the vehicles is good.

The following premises are registered under the provisions laid down in Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Fish fryers	87
fish fryers and chicken roasters	3
Butchers manufacturing sausages	49
Butchers manufacturing sausages and cooked meats	23
Ham boiling	2
Grocers manufacturing cooked meats	3
Pickle manufacturers	2
Chicken roasters	8
Meat products factories	4
	<hr/>
	181
	<hr/>

Premises registered under the provisions laid down in the Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954 :-

Notification of new food premises	(Sec: 101)	6
Food hawkers and their premises	(Sec: 102)	42
Vendors of shell fish and their premises	(Sec: 103)	38

During the course of the year a total of 1535 inspections and 272 re-inspections were made, 36 notices were served and 24 verbal cautions were given.

For the same period 38 written and 23 verbal notices were abated, with a total of 288 defects and contraventions remedied, details of these figures can be seen in the summary.

Summary of Inspections and Defects remedied.

	Cafes and Canteens	Food Preparing Premises	Licensed Premises	Food Shops	Food Stalls	Totals
No. of premises	136	181	125	884	79	1405
No. of inspections	244	257	8	510	240	1259
No. of re-inspections	53	31	1	63	69	217
Defects and Contraventions remedied						
External structural defects	1	-	-	2	-	3
Drains, cleansed altered or relaid	2	2	-	-	-	4
Water closets repaired or limewashed	1	4	-	2	-	7
Walls repaired, cleansed or re-decorated	66	16	-	56	-	138
Ceilings repaired, cleansed or re-decorated	12	3	-	11	1	27
Floors or staircases repaired or cleansed	4	2	-	5	10	21
Doors or windows repaired, cleansed or redecorated	-	-	-	1	-	1
Ventilation or artificial lighting improved or provided	-	-	-	1	-	1
Dirty premises cleansed	-	-	-	3	-	3
Provision of clean overalls	-	-	-	1	-	1
Space heating provided	-	-	-	1	-	1
Wash-basins provided or renewed	1	1	-	4	2	8
Sinks provided or renewed	-	-	-	6	-	6
Hot or cold water supply provided	6	5	-	18	2	31
Waste pipes repaired	-	-	-	1	-	1
Towel, soap or nail brush provided	1	3	-	3	-	7
Notices regarding the washing of hands provided	-	2	-	1	-	3
First aid equipment provided	1	1	-	1	-	3
Cloakroom or locker accommodation for clothes provided	1	-	-	1	-	2
Protection of food from contamination	2	1	-	-	10	13
Additional dust bins provided	-	-	-	3	-	3
Name and address displayed	-	-	-	-	4	4
	98	40	-	121	29	288

hops Act, 1950.

433 visits and 12 re-inspections were made under this Act.

Two notices were served and two notices were abated during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Analysis of Food (other than Milk)

A wide variety of foods and drugs were sampled during the year. A total of 199 samples (in addition to the 204 milk samples previously referred to) were submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst, Tennyson Harris, Esq., Ph. C., F.P.S., F.R.I.C., whose help and co-operation are gratefully acknowledged.

Samples of pickles, dried salad dressing mixture and flavoured milk were found to be incorrectly labelled. The attention of the packers were drawn to the offences and the labels changed.

A sample of brown sugar contained an excess of water insoluble matter. The importers were cautioned.

A sample of Demerara sugar contained the exo-skeleton of an insect.

An informal sample of creamed rice milk pudding submitted, following a complaint, was found not to contain rice but shaped pieces of dough. The packer could not be traced and it has not been possible to obtain any further samples of this product.

Unsound Food.

The inspection of food in shops, warehouses, canteens, etc., was carried out by all the public health inspectors. All condemned food was collected and disposed of - mainly by tipping on the Corporation tip - under supervision. The following list shows the types and quantities of food dealt with.

Canned and Bottled Goods :-

Meat	1883
Fruit and Vegetables	5937
Fish	772
Soup	290
Milk	856
Preserves	26
Puddings	422
Bacon, Ham	92 lbs.
Beef, lamb	120 lbs.
Butter, other fats	24 lbs.
Cake, biscuits	484 lbs and 121 packets
Cereals	178 lbs.
Cheese	38 lbs.
Chickens	13

Cream	8 lbs.
Eggs	28 lbs.
Fish	37 lbs.
Fruit and Fruit Juice	179 lbs.
Jellies	11 lbs.
Meat Paste	5 lbs.
Pickles, Sauces, condiments	184 lbs and 20 jars
Sugar confectionery	75 dozen
Tea, coffee	28 lbs.

Food complaints.

During the year 20 complaints were received regarding food alleged to be unfit for consumption. These all alleged that some foreign object or substance was found in the food.

All cases were investigated with the manufacturers or importers and in the majority of cases some fault in the processing or storage was indicated. In a number of cases doubt arose as to whether the foreign object was actually in the food at the time of purchase.

Bread and confectionery were again the commodities giving rise to the largest number of complaints. Two cases of insects being found in fruit tarts were reported. Hessian fibres on bread were found in two cases and one complaint was received about string in a cake. Foreign matter and dirt from machinery were found in two loaves, and one complaint was received that bread was mouldy when delivered. In all cases the bakeries were cautioned.

Two complaints were received about foreign objects in sweets, a boiled sweet contained a bean shoot and a toffee contained a small nail. Both the manufacturers were cautioned.

Apart from the loaf of bread mentioned previously, complaints were received of mould affecting mushrooms, black puddings, butter and cheese. In all cases the extent to which the food was affected at the time of purchase could not be ascertained with certainty.

Complaints were also received that a bacon sandwich contained a cigarette filter tip and that a bottle of sauce contained cockroaches. Here again doubt arose as to the origin of the foreign objects.

Canned goods gave rise to 4 complaints - canned vegetables containing an insect and imported canned oranges containing fragments of glass. The canners and importers respectively were warned about these offences. Canned butter beans were labelled as canned peas. Other cans of this consignment were correctly labelled and although the matter was taken up with the wholesaler no satisfactory explanation could be found. The fourth complaint was that a mouse was found in an imported 7 lb. tin of chopped pork. The importers, exporters representatives and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were all contacted. No satisfactory explanation was forthcoming.

MEAT INSPECTION

This section of the report details the work carried out by the Veterinary Officer and the staff of Meat Inspectors.

During the year a total of 176,718 animals were slaughtered in the Borough.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Goats
1961	77,222	1,431	92,012	6,053	34

The numbers show an increase from the previous year, 176,718 as compared with 163,071 in 1960. There was an increase of 17,313 in the number of cattle slaughtered and an increase of 612 calves. Sheep slaughter decreased by 3,493 and pig slaughter by 785. No goats were slaughtered in 1960.

All animals slaughtered were subject to ante and post-mortem inspection.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Goats
No Slaughtered	77222	1431	92012	6053	34
No Inspected	77222	1431	92012	6053	34
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci - whole carcasses condemned	47	23	68	51	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	15460	14	30155	1122	6
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	20%	1%	32%	18%	16%
Tuberculosis only - Whole carcasses condemned	62	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4440	Nil	Nil	73	Nil
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.7%	Nil	Nil	1.2%	Nil
Cysticercosis Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Weight of condemned carcasses and portions 46 tons 19 cwts.

Weight of condemned offal and portions 160 tons 8 cwts

Slaughtering takes place at Woodside Lairage, which is a Landing Wharf and slaughtering place for imported animals, and at Tranmere Abattoir, which is a public slaughterhouse for home-bred animals.

The number of animals slaughtered at Woodside Lairage and Tranmere Abattoir during the year was as follows.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Woodside Lairage	71,584	-	45,348	663	34
Tranmere Abattoir	5,638	1,431	46,664	5,390	-
Totals	77,222	1,431	92,012	6,053	34

WOODSIDE LAIRAGE.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Whole carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	60	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	452	Nil	Nil	12	Nil
No. of Carcasses of which some organ was condemned for tuberculosis	4,440	Nil	Nil	12	Nil
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	6.2	Nil	Nil	1.8	Nil

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for tuberculosis - 25 tons 12 cwts.

Total weight of offal condemned for tuberculosis - 50 tons 1 cwt.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Whole carcasses condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis	33	Nil	15	25	Nil
Part of carcasses condemned for ditto	121	Nil	53	52	Nil

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis - 13 tons 13 cwts.

Total weight of offal condemned for ditto - 79 tons 10 cwts.

TRANMERE ABATTOIR

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	61
No. of carcasses of which some organ was condemned for tuberculosis	39	Nil	Nil	61
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	.7	Nil	Nil	1.1

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for tuberculosis - 15 cwts.

Total weight of offal condemned for tuberculosis - 16 cwts.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis	14	23	53	26
Part carcasses condemned for ditto	82	1	79	209

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis - 6 tons 19 cwts.

Total weight of offal condemned for ditto - 30 tons 1 cwt.

The incidence of tuberculosis in home-bred livestock continues to diminish following the implementation of the Ministry of Agriculture's eradication scheme and the subsequent routine tuberculin-testing of herds. An improvement is also shown in the tuberculosis rate in imported cattle.

EMERGENCY SLAUGHTER.

During the year 47 animals were received into Tranmere Abattoir for emergency slaughter due to sickness or injury. Of these, 12 animals were condemned, while in the other cases it was only necessary to condemn part of the carcase, or offal.

Cattle showing a positive reaction to the tuberculin test were sent to Tranmere Abattoir for slaughter.

IMPORTED MEAT.

Check inspections of imported meat in Wholesale Depots were carried out during the year. In all 80 visits were paid to Wholesale Depots, and as a result of the inspections 59 cwts. of carcase meat, 17 cwts of offal, 14 tins of cooked meat weighing 90 lbs., and 43 poultry carcasses weighing 132 lbs. were found to be unfit for consumption.

EXPORT OF MEAT PRODUCTS.

During the year the Veterinary Officer issued licences to gut-scraping firms for 302 tierces (42 gallon casks) of beef rounds and middles, and 2,477 hanks of sheep and hog casings, for shipment abroad, following visits to the factories and inspection of the products.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1955.

One application for Slaughterman's Licence was received and approved during the year. In addition 68 renewals of Slaughtermen's Licences were granted to approved applicants. It was not found necessary to prosecute any cases under the above Act.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

This Act regulates the sale of pet animals and makes it an offence to keep a Pet Shop except under the authority of a licence granted by the Local Authority. These shops are visited regularly to ensure compliance with the conditions of the licence. During the year 60 visits were made and 14 licences issued.

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES USED FOR THE SALE OF ANIMAL FEEDING MEAT.

The Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954, Section 98, regulates the sale of animal feeding meat and provides for the registration of approved premises. There were 23 such registered premises in the town as at 31st December, 1961.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.

In addition to the promulgation of the orders of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the supervision of infected premises and the issuing of licences for the movement of animals, it is the duty of the Local Authority to enforce all orders made for the protection of animals and poultry from unnecessary suffering during transit.

The various duties include the inspection of animals at farms and piggeries, railway cattle sidings, the supervision of the cleansing and disinfection of premises following outbreaks of any of the scheduled diseases of animals, and the issuing of licences controlling the movement of animals.

Foot and Mouth Disease.

Outbreaks occurred in Cheshire at the beginning of the year, and restrictions were in force for two months. This involved the licencing and routing of a considerable number of animals to enable them to reach the local abattoir without passing through the infected areas.

Swine Fever

There were no outbreaks in the Borough during the year.

Regulation of Movement of Swine Order 1951

During the year 35 store pigs were brought into the Borough under licence. During the period of 28 days detention the premises were visited and the pigs were examined.

Tuberculosis (Slaughter of Reactors) Order 1950

During the year 109 cattle which had reacted to tuberculin tests were slaughtered at the Public Abattoir. A report of the post-mortem examination was in each case sent to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Warble Fly (Dressing of Cattle) Order 1948

Copies of the Ministry's leaflet on the ox warble fly were distributed to cattle owners in the Borough, who were reminded of their responsibility in observing the provisions of the Order.

Importation of Dogs and Cats Order 1928

Owing to a change of charter and crew of a steamship at the Birkenhead docks it became necessary for the ship's two cats to be put ashore. There being no person prepared to stand surety for the animals in quarantine, they were accordingly humanely destroyed under supervision, under the provisions of the above Order.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods Order) 1957

No new applications for licences under this order were received.

Live Poultry Restrictions Order 1954

Frequent visits were paid to live poultry dealers and breeders and to the Market. No contraventions of the above Order were observed.

